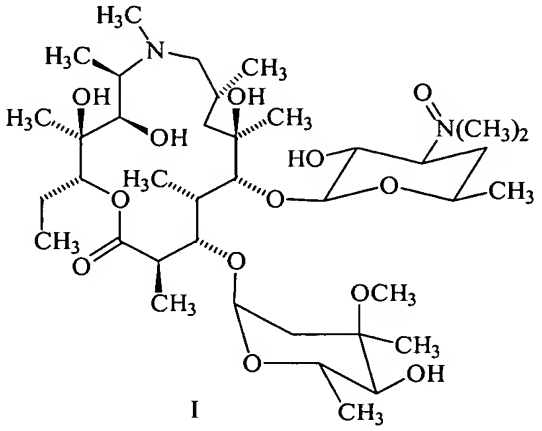
AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

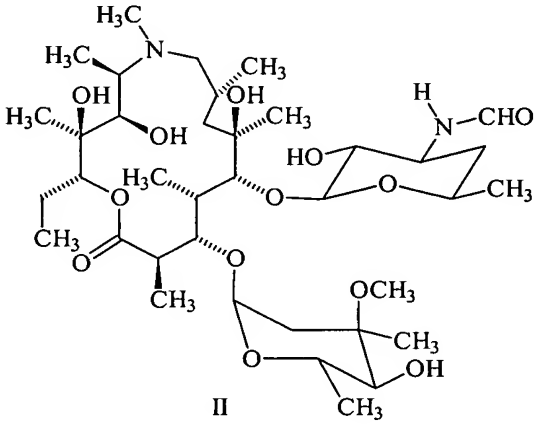
1. (Original) An azithromycin degradation product identified by an HPLC relative retention time of 0.22, 0.26, or 0.80.

2. (Previously presented) An azithromycin degradation product having substantially the following structure I:



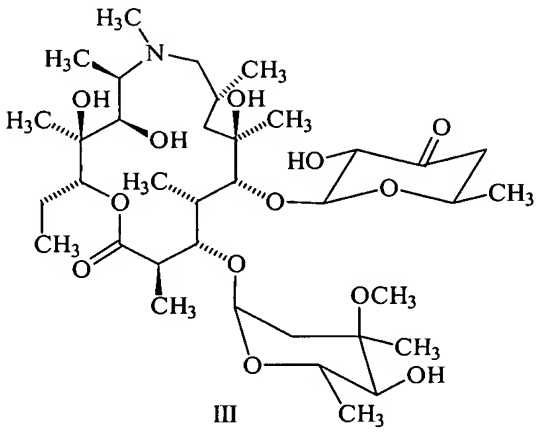
I

3. (Previously presented) An azithromycin degradation product having substantially the following structure II:



II

4. (Previously presented) An azithromycin degradation product having the following structure III:



III

5. Cancelled.

6. Cancelled.

7. (Withdrawn) A method to analyze azithromycin purity comprising:

assaying azithromycin using an HPLC to determine the presence of azithromycin degradation products;

identifying azithromycin degradation products; and

quantifying the azithromycin degradation products.

8. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 7, wherein the identification step comprises searching and identifying on the HPLC spectrum azithromycin degradation products having a relative retention time of about 0.22, 0.26, and 0.80.

9. (Withdrawn) A method to determine azithromycin stability comprising:

assaying azithromycin using HPLC to determine the presence of azithromycin degradation products;

identifying the azithromycin degradation products; and

quantifying the azithromycin degradation products.

10. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 9, wherein the identification step comprises searching and identifying on the HPLC spectrum azithromycin degradation products having a relative retention time of about 0.22, 0.26, and 0.80.

11. (Currently amended) A method of determining the presence and amount of an impurity in azithromycin comprising ~~of using~~ determining the presence of an azithromycin degradation product of ~~claim 3~~ claim 2 or 4 wherein the determination is performed with ~~as~~ a reference standard having the degradation product of claim 2 or 4; and quantifying ~~to quantify~~ the amount of the azithromycin degradation product in a sample of azithromycin using the reference standard.